Note:

The attached preliminary assessment should be substituted for the assessment on the same subject, dated 10 October 1967, [redacted] The summary and paragraphs 1 and 5 have been revised. 25X1

[redacted] 25X1
10 October 1967

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Preliminary Assessment of BLACK SHIELD Photography [redacted] 25X1

Summary

Two BLACK SHIELD missions--flown [redacted] 25X1
25X1 [redacted] made a total of three passes over North Vietnam north of the panhandle. Clear photographic coverage was obtained of over 40 percent of the country. All of North Vietnam's six principal airfields, two-thirds of the SA-2 sites, and nearly all of the railroad network north of the panhandle were photographed. No evidence of surface-to-surface missile deployment was noted.

Note: This memorandum was prepared by the Directorate of Intelligence.

1. BLACK SHIELD missions [redacted]-flown 25X1
25X1 [redacted]--made a total of three passes over North Vietnam north of the panhandle. Clear photographic coverage was obtained of over 40 percent of the country, including the important Hanoi, Haiphong, and Thai Nguyen areas, and the key Pinghsiang and Dong Dang transshipment points in the China-DRV border area. No evidence of surface-to-surface missile deployment was noted.

2. Order of Battle Information: All of North Vietnam's six principal airfields were covered by
25X1 the [redacted] mission. Three were occupied by fighter aircraft. At Phuc Yen airfield, eight MIG-21s and 10-11 MIG-15/17s were in evidence. At Hanoi/Gia Lam airfield, five MIG-17s and three probable UMIG-15 trainers were identified. At Kep airfield, two serviceable MIG-15/17s were sighted. The air order of battle evident on this mission is essentially in accord with the current estimate of nine MIG-21s and 17 MIG-17s operational in the DRV, based on prior photography [redacted] 25X1

3. One hundred and forty-four of some 220 SA-2 sites in North Vietnam were photographed by the [redacted] 25X1
25X1 [redacted] mission. One new, but unoccupied, site was detected. Eighteen of the photographed sites were occupied, 114 unoccupied, and at 12 occupancy could not be determined. Only nine sites were photographed
25X1 by the [redacted] mission.

4. Naval vessels were photographed at both Hanoi and Haiphong by the [redacted] mission. Three Shanghai-class patrol boats and 11 probable Swatow-class motor gunboats were in evidence at the capital. At Haiphong, two SO-1 class subchasers, one Swatow-class motor gunboat, and eight motor torpedo boats--six of the P-6 class and two of the P-4 class--were observed.

5. Land Transportation System: The [redacted] mission showed a considerable amount of activity in the vicinity of the transshipment points at Pingshiang, China, and nearby Dong Dang in North Vietnam. A final count of the rolling stock and vehicles in these areas is still in process. The number of trucks in and near the Dong Dang rail yard is high, however, and a preliminary count of the rail cars at Pinghsiang shows 384--one of the largest counts ever obtained there. Armored vehicles on flat-cars were observed for the first time at Pinghsiang. Fifteen probable tanks and 25 possible tank/assault guns--all canvas-covered--were seen. Prior to this, the combat equipment noted at Pinghsiang has been limited to field artillery and AA guns. 25X1

6. Ths missions covered 40 of the bridges and rail yards that are included on the CIA priority requirements list for bomb damage assessment. Thirty-eight of these were covered by the [redacted] mission. The missions also covered 100 percent of the Pinghsiang-Hanoi, Haiphong-Hanoi, and Kep-Thai Nguyen-Hanoi rail lines, 60 percent of the Lao Cai-Hanoi rail line, and ten percent of the Hanoi-Dong Hoi rail line. Both the Pinghsiang-Hanoi and Kep-Thai Nguyen-Hanoi lines were shown to be serviceable to through traffic. 25X1

25X1 7. The [redacted] mission revealed that the Haiphong-Hanoi rail line is serviceable to through traffic except for the destroyed railroad/highway bridge at Haiphong. A considerable volume of goods can still be moved out of the port, however. At least eight highway bypasses are available, and a rail bypass or ferry bridge can be seen under construction near the destroyed railroad/highway bridge. The mission showed that the Paul Doumer Bridge over the Red River has been repaired with concrete and steel and is now serviceable to both rail and highway traffic.

8. Thermal Power Plants: The [redacted] mission showed steam rising from the Uong Bi Thermal Power Plant, indicating that it may be in the process of being put back into operation. The mission also showed that damage to the roof of the control house of the Hanoi Thermal Power Plant has been repaired, and the south wall of the plant has been partially repaired and extended. 25X1

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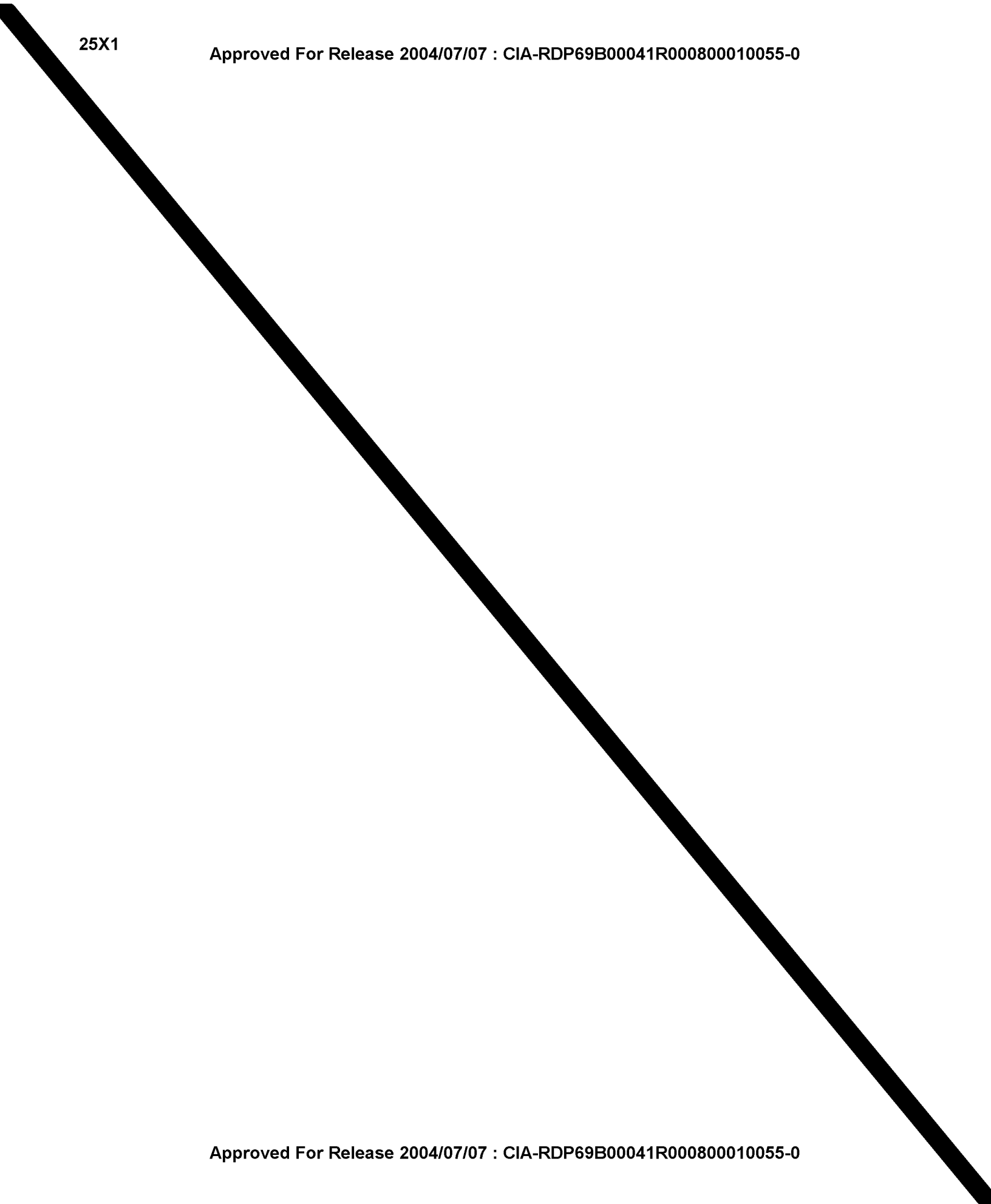

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